

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

What is claimed is:

1. (currently amended) A method for ~~providing driver independent, printer-independent page manipulation options in a printing system creating a page-independent spool file index~~, said method comprising:  
~~reading creating a spool data file for a document;~~  
~~creating a Page-Independent Spool File (PISF) index file from based on~~  
~~data in said spool data file, wherein said PISF index file reorganizes~~  
~~document-wide, persistent, page formatting data in said spool data file~~  
~~into independent units corresponding to each page of said document;~~  
~~and~~  
~~allowing user manipulation of said PISF index file, after creation of said~~  
~~index file, to effect document page format manipulation options; and~~  
~~accessing said PISF index file to execute a print job.~~
  
2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~wherein said spool data file is a Microsoft Windows Job Description File further comprising providing a user interface for user manipulation of said PISF index file, after creation of said index file, to effect document page format manipulation options.~~

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 4 wherein said manipulating comprises re-ordering of pages in said document PISF index file comprises an independent record of each page in said spool data file.
4. (currently amended) The method of claim 4 wherein said user manipulation is performed via a spooler user interface.
5. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said PISF index file is created by a process that is independent of the process that created said spool data file.
6. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said PISF index file is created by a modified print processor.
7. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said PISF index file is stored independently of said spool data file.
8. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said PISF index file is created by a print system component other than the component that creates said spool data file.

9. (currently amended) The method of claim + 2 wherein said manipulation of said PISF index file comprises changing collation options.

10. (currently amended) A method for providing performing document formatting options in a printing system, said method comprising:

creating a Page Independent Spool File (PISF) index file; and  
manipulating said a PISF index file to effect document formatting options  
by user input after creation of said PISF index file, wherein said PISF  
index file comprises document-wide, persistent, page formatting data from  
a spool data file that has been reorganized into independent units  
corresponding to each page of a document; and  
accessing said manipulated PISF index file to execute a print job.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 10 wherein said creating, said  
manipulating and said accessing are accomplished with a print processor  
manipulating comprises changing the order of a page in said document.

12. (currently amended) The method of claim 10 wherein said creating, said  
manipulating and said accessing are accomplished through a spooler manipulating  
comprises changing collation options for said document.

13. (currently amended) The method of claim 10 wherein said ~~creating, said~~  
manipulating ~~and said accessing are~~ is accomplished through a print assistant  
between a driver and a printer.

14. (currently amended) A method for adding obtaining page-independent print data  
in document formatting capability to a printing system, said method comprising:  
reading a PISF index file, wherein said PISF index file comprises  
document-wide, persistent, page formatting data from a spool data file that  
has been reorganized into independent units corresponding to each page of  
a document; and  
accessing data indexed in said independent units to form a print job,  
providing a print system component with the  
initiating a print job for a document;  
creating a PISF index file;  
modifying said PISF index file through user input, from said print  
processor after creation of said PISF index file; and  
accessing said PISF index file, from said print processor, to obtain  
document formatting information for printing.

15. (original) The method of claim 14 wherein said PISF index file is produced by a print processor.
16. (original) The method of claim 14 wherein said PISF index file is produced by a spooler.
17. (original) The method of claim 14 wherein said PISF index file is produced by a print system component in a print system between a driver and a printer.
18. (currently amended) A printing system with driver-independent, printer-independent document formatting, said system comprising:  
~~a print processor comprising:~~  
a reader for reading a spool data file for a document;  
an indexer for converting document-wide, persistent, page  
formatting data in said spool data file into independent, page-related units,  
thereby creating a page-independent spool file (PISF) index file;  
~~a modifier for modifying said index file to effect document~~  
~~formatting options in response to user input wherein said modifying~~  
~~occurs after creation of said index file; and~~  
~~a reader for accessing said manipulated index file to execute a~~  
~~modified print job.~~

19. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium comprising instructions for  
~~driver independent, printer independent document formatting creating a page-~~  
~~independent spool file (PISF) index file~~, said instructions comprising the acts of:  
~~reading a spool data file for a document; and~~  
~~converting document-wide, persistent, page formatting data in said spool~~  
~~data file into independent, page-related units, thereby creating a (PISF)~~  
~~index file.~~  
~~creating a page-independent index file;~~  
~~manipulating said index file to effect document formatting options after~~  
~~creation of said index file; and~~  
~~accessing said manipulated index file to execute a print job.~~

20. (canceled)